



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

The Corps'pondent

a newsletter by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the residents of Spring Valley

Vol. 3, No. 4

April 2001

Next community meeting to be held May 1 at 7 p.m.

Location: Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, 3401 Nebraska Avenue

*by Capt. Michael Peloquin
Spring Valley Operations Officer*

The next Spring Valley community meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2001, 7 p.m., at the Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, 3401 Nebraska Avenue, N.W.

At the meeting, we will present the updated plan to expand soil sampling in the Spring Valley community. Public comments received during the recent 30-day comment period have been incorporated into this updated plan. We will also provide an update on the effort to establish a Restoration Advisory Board. The RAB will likely meet for the first time in mid-May.

Misinformation in cover letter

We mailed a cover letter and a copy of the right-of-entry form to every Spring Valley resident on April 13. Unfortunately, this cover letter contained outdated and inaccurate information. The letter indicated that the expanded soil sampling effort would include only 270 properties. This is incorrect.

The proposed expanded soil sampling plan involves collecting samples and testing the soil for arsenic at all properties — **approximately 1,200** — within the Spring Valley project site.

This letter also mentioned that the sampling effort would begin

in mid to late April. This, too, is incorrect. The current timetable for beginning the expand soil sampling is early to mid-June.

This change from the previous mid-May start date is due to contracting issues and to provide time for the Restoration Advisory Board to review the sampling plan.

The letter also stated the initial Spring Valley investigation ended in 1996. This is not correct. The Corps completed its initial investigation in 1995 and issued a final remedial investigation report in June 1995.

Right-of-entry forms needed

Despite these inaccuracies in the cover letter, the right-of-entry form that was mailed to residents on April 13 is correct.

In order for the Corps of Engineers to conduct the investigation of your property, we must receive a signed copy of the right-of-entry form.

This right-of-entry form differs from the one used during the previous Spring Valley investigation in that it limits the government to performing only the sampling as described in the document.

It gives the government no right to perform any subsequent remedial work that might be required. If, as a result of this soil sampling effort, remedial

work is needed, we will discuss a work plan with the property owner and have a new right-of-entry.

If you need a right-of-entry form, you can download a copy from the Spring Valley Internet web site at: <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/projects/WashingtonDC/springvalley.htm>.

You can also obtain a right-of-entry form by calling Melissa Jones, Corps of Engineers' Real Estate Office, at 410-962-5166.

We encourage all residents to sign and return two copies of this form as soon as possible to **Chief, Real Estate Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Md. 21203-1715.**

New operations officer

Beginning May 1, I will assume the duties as on-site operations officer for the Spring Valley project. I am replacing Maj. Brian Plaisted, who is retiring from the Army.

I will manage the day-to-day activities of the Corps' investigation in the Spring Valley neighborhood.

Prior to this project, I've served in numerous combat engineer units, leading soldiers in several deployments. I also hold an advanced degree in environmental engineering, and I look forward to working on this project.



Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

Official Business

PRE-SORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
MAIL ADVERTISING
SERVICES, INC
20850

Community Meeting

May 1

7 p.m.

Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church
3401 Nebraska Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

- * Update on the soil sampling plan
- * Status report on establishment of Restoration Advisory Board

The Corps'pondent

The Corps'pondent is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR360-81 and published by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Md. 21203-1715. Telephone: (410) 962-2809; fax: (410) 962-3660, Spring Valley Information Line (1-800-434-0988). It is printed on recyclable paper; press run 1,200. All manuscripts submitted are subject to editing and rewriting. Material from this publication may be reproduced without permission. Views and opinions are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Project web page:

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/projects/WashingtonDC/springvalley.htm>

Baltimore Commander & District Engineer **Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr.**
Deputy District Engineer, Spring Valley **Capt. Michael Peloquin**
Public Affairs Chief **Lucy Lather**
Public Affairs Specialist **Doug Garman**